

Message Text

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11

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ADP-00 AGR-20 COME-00 TRSE-00

OPIC-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OMB-01 RSR-01

/092 W

----- 108654

R 041235 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2864

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DAR ES SALAAM 1136

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, TZ

SUBJ: FORWARD SISAL CONTRACT REPUDIATIONS

REFS: A) STATE 059701; (B) DAR ES SALAAM 3612, 12/16/72

1. EMBASSY IN CONTACT WITH TANZANIA SISAL MARKETING AUTHORITY (TASMA) WHICH STILL HAS NOT RPT NOT COLLECTED COMPLETE STATISTICS ON WHAT FIRMS AND WHAT QUANTITIES SISAL HIT BY CONTRACT REPUDIATIONS. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TASMA HAZILY ESTIMATES WILL HAVE COMPLETE STORY " SOMETIME AFTER EASTER WEEKEND".

2. MANY WEST GERMAN FIRMS BEING ASKED TO RENEGOTIATE CONTRACTS WHICH TANGOV OFFICIALS ALLEGE TENDS SUBSTANTIATE THEIR SUSPICIONS OF FRAUD IN NEGOTIATION ORIGINAL CONTRACTS (SEE REF B). MAJOR COUNTRY HIT, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN BELGIUM WHICH HAS AMALL, BUT IN TERMS BELGIAN ECONOMY SIGNIFICANT, SISAL SPINNING INDUSTRY.

3. DUTCH AND BELGIAN AMBASSADORS HAVE MADE LOW KEY DEMARCHES
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TO FOREIGN MINISTER IN WHICH THEY POINTED OUT INADVISABILITY OF HANDLING INTERNATIONAL COMMODITY MATTERS UNILATERALLY, CITING DANGERS OF SUBSTITUTION AND EMBITTERMENT OF FUTURE COMMERCIAL RELATIONS. FONMIN UNDERTOOK TO RAISE MATTER WITH MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND GET BACK TO AMBASSADORS BY APRIL 3. AS OF APRIL 4 NEITHER EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED CALL FROM FONMIN. GERMANS WERE INSTRUCTED TO ALSO MAKE LOW KEY APPROACH ON MATTER BUT HAVE DELAYED PENDING FURTHER CLARIFICATION FROM BONN.

4. DUTCH, BELGIAN AND GERMAN TRADE SOURCES ALL BITTERLY ACCUSING AMERICAN FIRMS OF RESPONSIBILITY FOR RECENT PRICE RISE IN SISAL AS RESULT INTENSE PURCHASING AND SPECULATION IN FUTURES. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION THIS SUBJECT AVAILABLE TO DEPARTMENT TO USE IN OUR OWN DEMARCHE IF U. S. FIRMS HAVE BEEN AFFECTED BY CONTRACT REPUDIATIONS. SUCH DEMARCHE WOULD REEMPHASIZE POINTS ALREADY MADE BY DUTCH AND BELGIANS. CARTER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 971119
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TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, TZ
To: BONN
BRUSSELS
EB
KAMPALA
LONDON
NAIROBI
SECSTATE WASHDC

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